

REPORT
OF
THE GLASGOW
QUARTERLY CONFERENCE,

HELD IN
THE MECHANICS' INSTITUTION,
CANNING STREET, CALTON, GLASGOW,

March 24 and 25, 1849.

The Proceeds of the various Branches were in one of the Side Rooms of the Institution, Saturday, the 24th, at Four o'clock, P.M., at which time the following Report was given in:—

Name of Branch.	Person Represented.	Number of Patrons.	Number of Teachers.	Number of Disciples.	Total.	Baptized.	Received.	Returned.	Out off.	Engaged.	Deaf.	Severely.	Amount Due Standing Office.	Amount of Books on Hand.	Amount of Books, Bibles, and Bibles given.	Number of Pupils in Class.	Amount of Dismissed for Illness.	Amount of Dismissed for other causes.	Kind of Dismissal.	Remarks.
Glasgow	Jan. M'Eachern	13	14	9	475	54	16	11	14	28	8	8	2 14 5	...	24 0 8	3060	0 5 4	...	...	Generally in good stand- ing.
Albion	Irwin	10	8	4	155	30	12	9	7	3	7	13	2 7 10	...	7 11 4	1250	4 14 8	43	...	...
Belfast	Livingston	5	4	2	76	22	10	4	11	0	1	4	1 2 2 0	...	2 18 4	600	1 10 11	27	...	...
Lanark	Thompson	4	3	3	68	0	0	1	1	5	1	1	2 2 3 3	...	1 19 4	600	1 14 9	11	...	...
Paisley	Ball	4	4	2	146	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1 0 9 9	...	4 0 0	750	1 15 3	21	...	...
Tullahoma	M'Fadyen	4	4	2	65	27	8	1	0	0	0	0	2 0 16 3	...	3 17 0	500	2 0 9	20	...	...
Kilmarnock	Patterson	3	3	2	109	47	10	3	7	0	0	0	2 0 16 3	...	4 17 0	750	2 10 3	30	...	...
Greenock	Douglas	3	3	4	85	49	3	2	3	0	0	0	2 1 19 1	...	3 7 0	500	3 7 0	27	...	...
Bridge of Weir	Wattson	4	1	1	83	7	1	0	1	7	0	0	1 15 4	...	2 6 0	...	1 11 9	20	...	...
Johnstone	Do.	3	2	1	57	45	0	1	2	4	2	1	1 7 2 1	...	2 6 0	...	...	...	...	...
Kilmarnock	Do.	3	3	1	65	49	13	3	2	0	0	0	1 7 2 1	...	2 6 0	...	...	...	...	...
Dunfermline	Barrow	4	3	1	53	43	4	1	0	0	0	0	1 8 6 0	...	1 14 0	500	0 7 0	11	...	...
Campbell	Scott	3	3	1	18	24	2	0	0	0	0	0	0 3 3 3	...	1 1 0	150	1 0 6	19	...	...
Renfrew	Ferguson	3	1	1	39	46	15	4	3	0	0	0	1 8 6 0	...	2 14 0	250	1 13 4	14	...	...
Val of Leven	McKibbin	1	2	1	24	39	6	0	0	1	0	0	...	...	0 18 0	250	1 0 1	12	...	...
Leven	Gray	3	2	1	24	39	2	0	0	0	0	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Auchtermuchty	Rae	0	0	1	9	10	3	0	0	0	0	0	0 18 8	...	1 15 4	125	0 5 4	7	...	...
Bellona	Watkinson	1	1	1	7	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	...	...	0 5 6	45	0 0 0	2	...	...
Kilgobbin	M'Naught	1	2	1	3	16	2	1	1	0	0	0	0 2 1	...	0 7 0	72	0 1 3	3	...	...
Bush	Leitch	1	1	1	8	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0 4 10	...	0 14 0	75	0 5 0	7	...	...
Stornoway	Miller	1	1	1	9	14	2	0	0	0	0	0	0 3 3	...	0 8 4	...	0 1 0	4	...	...
Ayr	M'Clanahan	3	1	0	15	18	3	2	2	0	0	0	0 7 9	...	0 4 5	...	0 2 11	...	...	...
Cross Hill	Collins	3	3	1	32	38	7	2	9	1	0	0	0 8 0	...	1 2 0	...	1 8 8	12	...	...
Garran	Crook	1	2	0	21	26	0	4	4	0	1	3	0 8 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cumbury	Drummond	1	2	0	12	17	4	0	2	1	0	0	0 8 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Thurfield	M'Leath	3	3	3	39	15	4	4	1	1	0	0	0 8 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		75	73	43	1458	1706	271	60	50	49	30	30	27 6	33 10 9	71 18 10	9929	30 14 6	491	...	...

REPORT, &c.

Amount due the Liverpool Office, by Star agent, up to 21st of March, is £75 13s. 5d., to meet which, he has books, stars, pamphlets, &c., on hand, to the amount of £30 10s. 10d. Cash on hand, £15 11s. 9d. Debts due by the branches, £28 16s. 8d. Total, £73 9s. 2d., leaving a balance against him, 14s.

After the representations and reports had been given in, President Kelsey arose and stated, that it was resolved by this council, at last conference, that unless the president, council, and members of the Girvan branch, would come out from their filth, drunkenness, quarrelling, backbiting, &c., that we would disfellowship the whole branch. From what he could learn, he believed they were in the same state now, that they were at last conference, and he would move that we disfellowship the Girvan Branch. It was seconded by elder Douglas, and unanimously carried.

The president then stated, that elder Graham Douglas, had been appointed at last Conference to the oversight of the Greenock branch, and to travel in the region around. When elder Duncan Campbell emigrated to America last winter, he had appointed elder John M'Farlane to preside over the branch under the counsel of elder Douglas; since that time brother M'Farlane had not attended any of the meetings, and had neglected to fulfil the duties of his office in every instance; and when he went down himself a short time since, to investigate the matter, he found that brother M'Farlane had also been guilty of intoxication. He therefore removed him from the presidency, and only felt to sustain him in his office as an elder upon the condition that he make public acknowledgment to the church for that which he had done, and go forth and prove his repentance by magnifying his office for the future. It will then be necessary for some one to take charge of Greenock, as he wished to remove elder Douglas to another field of labour. He, therefore, moved, that priest Peter M'Farlane be ordained to the office of an elder and placed in the charge of Greenock branch—seconded and unanimously carried.

The following names were then handed in for ordination to the priesthood, viz. :—

For GREENOCK BRANCH—George Denison, Deacon, to the office of Priest; Alexander Cuthel, Member, to the office of Deacon.

For VAL OF LEVEN BRANCH.—James Smith, Member, to the office of Teacher; Thomas Forrest, Member, to the office of Teacher.

For CROSS HILL BRANCH.—James M'Binnis, Member, to the office of Teacher.

For LANARK BRANCH.—John Ayton, Teacher, to the office of Priest ; Charles Hall, Member, to the office of Teacher.

For DULY BRANCH.—William Wilson, Member, to the office of Priest ; William Sanderson, Deacon, to the office of Teacher ; Thomas Adamson, Member, to the office of Teacher ; David Dick, Member, to the office of Teacher ; William Hutchison, Member, to the office of Deacon ; William M'Donald, Member, to the office of Deacon.

It was moved, seconded, and unanimously carried, that the following brethren be ordained to the office of Elders, and sent forth to labour in the unoccupied portions of the Conference :—

Samuel Lindsay, of Hoylton Branch ;
David Maxwell, of Lanark Branch ;
Robert Logan, of Kilmarnock Branch.

President Kelsey also moved that Elder Robert Cunningham take the Presidency of the Kelvin Dock, and Knightswood Branch—seconded and unanimously carried.

The President then stated that he was highly pleased with the labours of the Elders and Priests, in the various branches, in their (week night) meetings, and would say to the presidents to continue those meetings for they had already done much good—not to be discouraged when strangers did not attend, for they were of great benefit to the saints, as they gave them the opportunity of meeting often together—they would thus become more united, their feelings would amalgamate—they could counsel with, instruct, and edify one another, and thus be greatly benefited. He would also recommend to the Presidents to lift all the pamphlets they had in circulation, by the first week in May, as it would be near term time ; and, as thousands would change their places of residence between that and the 28th day of May, they would loose the greatest portion of them by leaving them out ; to put them all in good order, and, if necessary, change their places of meeting, and advertise them on the covers of their pamphlets, and have them ready for distribution again by the first week in June ; also, to encourage the young brethren and sisters to continue to faithfully distribute them, and thereby assist in warning the people that the hour of God's judgments is at hand ; for they needed as well as deserved every encouragement, for all manner of insult was heaped upon them, by the would-be righteous, in the discharge of their duties ; and, as the warm season was coming on, for them to send the Elders and Priests into the regions of the country, around the various branches, upon Sabbath days ; and let every man holding these offices go forth as a man of God, and raise his voice, as with the sound of a trumpet, and proclaim in the ears of all the people, the glad tidings of the Gospel, of the dispensation of the fulness of times. He would recommend to all present to put themselves in possession of the books of the law, and all standard works of the kingdom of God, and thus set a good example to the officers under them, who would soon follow them in the good work—the members would follow the priesthood, and, in a short time, it

would become a disgrace for a Latter-day-Saint to be without those books. They would thus be enabled to obtain a better knowledge of the principles of the Gospel, of the laws of the kingdom, and, consequently, less liable to break them.

It is the duty of the Priests to visit the Members in their districts as often as possible, and teach them their duty with regard to family prayer, to pray vocally and in secret, to raise up their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, that when they grow up they may not depart from it. This will not release the Teachers from a single item of their duties; for it is the duty of the Teachers to teach the saints those principles of family worship, family government, &c., as well as every other righteous principle. It is only intended as a double security against false teaching. The Teachers should make it a point to visit all the saints under their charge every fortnight. Let them be provided with blank books in which to enter the names of every Member in their districts, devoting one, two, or three pages for each person, or family, as occasion requires. Let them note the date of each visit, and the state of the person, or family, at that time, spiritual and temporal. If in need of instruction, give it to them in all righteousness. If in destitute circumstances, report to the Deacons whose duty it will be to look after them. These books will serve a double purpose; for a greater or less number of pages can be used to insert the names of all who feel willing to donate anything for the support of the Church, with the amount donated; so that, in case the Teachers are ordered by the Council to raise funds for any purpose, that all may have an opportunity of assisting, and having due credit for that which they do. It is the duty of the Deacons to assist the Teachers when occasion requires it; and, if the Presidents will appoint regular Council Meetings, to be held every fortnight, it will facilitate matters by giving the Elders and Priests, Teachers and Deacons, an opportunity of proving their faithfulness. Let the Presidents be careful in calling men into office and recommending them for ordination at Conference—that they call men of faith, who have a good understanding of the principles of the Gospel; and, as precept is worth nothing without example, let the Presidents set an example of every good work before the Council, and the Council to the Church, this will beget confidence—confidence will beget union—in union there is power, and all will work together for the good of the saints, and to the glory of God.

The Presidents had, at last Conference, pledged themselves that frequent payments be made to the Star Agent, and that there should be a complete settlement with him twice in each quarter, viz.:—the sixth week and twelfth week; and as there are generally thirteen weeks in each quarter, this would enable the Star Agent to settle with the Liverpool office before Conference. This had been attended to only in two instances out of twenty-six. He felt to blame the Presidents for passing resolutions and making covenants at Conference, then returning home and forgetting them, and hoped that they would see that these semi-quarterly settlements were attended to for the future. He did not wish to be understood that

there were no payments to be made, only semi-quarterly, for he wished the Branch Agents to send in their money as often as possible.

The following brethren have volunteered to go out to labour in the vineyard, for the next three months at least, viz :—

* David Duncanson, Elder, }	Ayrshire.
David Maxwell, do. }	
Graham Douglas, Elder, }	Lanarkshire and Wigtownshire.
Andrew Galloway, do. }	
* Andrew Henderson, Elder. }	Lanarkshire.
* Isaac M'Dougald, Elder, }	
Samuel Lindsay, do. }	Lanarkshire.
* Samuel Hargrave, Elder. }	
* Mathew Rowan, Elder, {	Region around Saltcoats, Dunoon, Ardrossan, &c.
* Robert Crook, H.P. }	
Hugh Fulton, Priest, }	Ayrshire.

It is not expected for these Elders to spend any portion of their time among the Branches (except Elders Rowan and Hargrave who have charge of Branches), but to go forth into districts where the people have not as yet heard the Gospel; and then for them not to travel over a great space of country, but to look about them—Choose out some six or eight places contiguous to each other, where there are good prospects. Go to work Dig about them for three months. Report at first Conference; then, if the prospects are good, and their circumstances will permit, try it for three months more. Sow the seed, watch it until it germinates, then cultivate it carefully, that, peradventure, it may bring forth fruit fit for the Master's use.

He would also recommend to this Council to come to some decision how to raise a fund sufficient to defray the expenses of the Conference, and to assist in liquidating the Conference debt (which now amounts to about fourteen pounds, it having been lessened near six pounds this quarter); and to this end he proposed that each President pledge himself, in the name of his branch, to pay into the Conference fund the sum of three pence for each Member represented by them at next Conference. This would lay the burden equally upon all. A part of this fund to be sent in as soon as possible to him, or to Pr. McKeachie, Star Agent—seconded by Elder McKeachie, and carried unanimously.

After a few more remarks from the President, upon the future prospects of the work in this Conference, he wished to know if the brethren were willing to sustain him, and back him up in the measures he had taken to carry on the work.

Elder McKeachie arose and stated that he had been among the Saints here for the last nine years. They had, uniformly, been blest with good Presidents; but he never knew one who filled his office better than our Brother Kelsey, and moved that we continue

to sustain him by our faith, prayers, and all else necessary for carrying out the measures he had adopted for the spread of the work; it being seconded, *President Pratt* arose and put the motion, which was unanimously carried.

President Pratt then said, from what he knew of Brother Kelsey's proceedings, and the order that had been established among the Elders, Priests, Teachers, and Deacons, and the strict account of all things relative to the Conference, he was much pleased; and would say (but not to flatter him) that he was never better pleased with any Conference than this with regard to Presidency; and, by the officers upholding him by their faith, prayers, and means, he would be a great blessing to them.

Elder Drummond, President of Cambuslang Branch, said, with regard to the prospects in his Branch, that they were good; and he had laid out a plan, in his own mind, of uniting Cambuslang Branch with the Rutherglen Branch, there being but a short distance between them. *President Kelsey* asked him if he did not think his labour would be more useful in Glasgow. *Brother Drummond* said, he did. It was then moved by *Elder Drummond*, and seconded by *Brother Kelsey*, that the Rutherglen and Cambuslang Branches be united into one, under the Presidency of *Elder Andrew Ferguson*—unanimously carried.

President Pratt then arose, and stated that he had something to lay before the meeting. He said, that, heretofore, we as a people, had been rather careless in recording remarkable instances of healing, as well as all other remarkable displays of the power of God through the administration of the ordinances. Among the many instances that had occurred since the rise of this Church, but very few were upon record. One reason of it being useful to record them is, when it is read of such power being in the Church, it served to strengthen the faith of the Saints who read of them; and, in after years, when these records are read by the Saints, it will stir them up to get hold of the same faith: again, the Elders are frequently called into discussions, at such times the subject of miracles is often brought up, and they want something definite to contrast with the miracles of former days. It is true we can testify of many things; but if we had on record, circumstances, time, and place, it would have a tremendous effect upon many people. Of course, many persons will laugh it to scorn; but it shall rise up against them in the day of judgment. He would then recommend the following plan, viz.:—Let the Clerk in each Branch be provided with a suitable book of record, and that the Elders, when any case worthy of note came under their cognizance, report the matter to the Clerk, with all the particulars in writings for record. Let the Clerk of each Branch, every three months, select the most remarkable cases, and send up a written statement to the Conference Clerk for record; then let the Presidents of Conference select the most remarkable of these for insertion in the Star. He would also recommend to the Presidents to open a record book in each branch, in which to record the blessings of children, verbatim, as near as possible, with the time and place of their birth, parents' names, by whom blessed, &c.; and also to record in same book the deaths of children, with time, place, disease, &c. He

would also recommend to travelling Elders to keep journals, in which to record every thing worthy of note that came under their notice. All this, if attended to, will form a history for a future day that will be useful and instructive.

President Kelsey moved that we, as a Conference, carry out all these recommendations to the very letter—seconded and unanimously carried. He would also propose that a summary of all the transactions of this Conference be drawn out, and that we have at least 200 copies printed, and circulated among the Branches; so that the Presidents would not forget, and that the officers and members would thereby be enabled to have a proper understanding of every thing connected with the spread of the work—this was unanimously carried.

The Meeting was then closed by prayer by President Pratt.

SABBATH DAY.

A very large congregation of the Saints met in the Hall at Eleven a.m. The meeting was opened with prayer by Elder Gibsen, President of Edinburgh Conference. President Kelsey then read over the reports from the various Branches, the Conference report, the report of the Star Agent, &c., reiterating many of the foregoing teachings for the instruction of the congregation, generally. The following resolutions were then unanimously carried.

1st, That we uphold and sustain President Brigham Young and his two councillors, H. C. Kemple, and Willard Richards, as the first Presidency of the Church in all the world.

2d, That we uphold the quorum of the twelve as the travelling High Council of the Church in all the world.

3d, That we uphold our beloved Brother Orson Pratt as the President of the Church in the British Isles.

4th, That we uphold Elder Kelsey as the President of Glasgow Conference, William McKeachie as our Star Agent, Walter Thompson as Conference Clerk.

5th, That we also uphold all the Presidents of Branches, and all the officers; and, finally, that we uphold and sustain each other in all righteousness.

President Kelsey stated that he wished to expedite the business of the Conference as much as possible, so as to get through with it during the forenoon, that we might have as much time as possible, during the afternoon and evening, to receive teachings from President Pratt. We would omit dispensing the sacrament. Those that were here for ordination, or confirmation, would please step into the side rooms, and the Elders and Clerk would attend upon them; the Conference business would thus be got along with the sooner.

The business of the Conference was finished during the forenoon. The Saints were truly made to rejoice, during the afternoon and evening, through the instructions of President Pratt, and will long remember his visit to Glasgow Conference, March 25th, 1849.

The Conference was adjourned. To be held again in Glasgow the last Sabbath in June, 1849.

* Placed in Charge.

ELI B. KELSEY, PRESIDENT.
WALTER THOMPSON, CLERK.